

1. Who has replaced Ron Lukenbill?

That position has not yet been opened, but Ron will be working part-time primarily on E-Grants.

2. Our school qualifies to consolidate other Title monies into Title I. Will we have to wait until August to do that?

No, you can go ahead as soon as the regular FY10 E-Grants opens with your various Titles in the ESEA/NCLB application. In the ARRA ESEA/NCLB application, you will only see Title I funds (if your district is eligible) until August or September when the ARRA Title II D funds become available.

3. When does the authority of ARRA start? Can we have expenses in June?

Yes, the authority to obligate funds under ARRA actually extends back to the date the law was signed, February 17, 2009.

4. Can amendments be made after monies are received if we opt to spend the monies differently than enumerated in the original application?

Yes, amendments can be made as usual.

5. Has a closing date for the E-Grants applications for ARRA and the 09-10 Title grants been set?

Yes, the deadline for submitting both ARRA and regular applications is September 1, 2009. Since Title II D funds under ARRA will not be added to the application until August or September, there will be additional time to apply for those funds. If a Title I ARRA application has already been submitted and approved, this will be an amendment to that application.

6. Will there be changes in NCLB requirements with this?

There are no changes to NCLB with the addition of the funds under ARRA. There are some new Title I regulations that were enacted last October that will need to be observed. Title I staff will make more information on those available soon.

7. As part of the ARRA consolidated application will we need to identify how we plan to spend the money before we can receive our allocation?

Yes, you will need to indicate in the application the planned uses of the funds in the same way you normally do in the Title I portion of the ESEA/NCLB application. You can amend the application if necessary at a later time.

8. Do I understand correctly that the ARRA funds will be fully available for the 09-10 fiscal years?

Yes, the funds under ARRA will be available for school year 2009-2010 (FY10) and school year 2010-2011 (FY11). The final date for obligations is September 30, 2011.

9. Can the ARRA funds be used to purchase a reading intervention program for our intensive students?

The Title I ARRA funds may be used for this purchase for the benefit of any student in a schoolwide program or for students selected for Title I services in a targeted assistance program (these students may be considered “intensive” depending on the selection criteria you have established). In a targeted assistance program, the Title I funds cannot be used to replace services required by an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

10. Will indirect costs be allowed to be taken on the ARRA funds?

Yes, indirect costs may be taken as usual using the rate approved by OPI for the district.

11. What census data is used for the determinations?

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) used the 2007 Census Bureau updates for poverty and population in making the allocation determinations (both final ARRA and the preliminary regular allocations). ED will use updated data for Foster and TANF counts in determining the final regular allocations.

12. Do you know yet what kind of increase we will see in the regular Title I funding for 2009-10?

The preliminary regular allocation for Montana overall is about \$2 million more than for the current year. However, this does not mean that every individual district regular allocation will increase.

13. April 22 is the date for the IDEA webinar? I thought it was scheduled for April 15.

The IDEA webinar was originally scheduled for April 15, but it has been changed to April 22.

14. Maybe you'll get to this, but what about the amount to provide to home schools/private schools?

This amount will be calculated as usual on Targeting Step 4 in the Title I portion of the ARRA ESEA/NCLB application. This step determines the amount of services that need to be provided to eligible students in a participating home school or private school.

15. Can we use ARRA money to replace the at-risk money the state took away from us?

In a district where all schools are eligible for Title I and all schools are schoolwide, this will not be a problem since all funds available will still be provided to schools (minus the At-Risk state funding). However, a district with non-Title I eligible schools cannot use the Title I ARRA funds to serve those schools. Also, in targeted assistance schools served with Title I, the selection criteria that is based on educationally related objective criteria must be used and only those students selected may be provided services.

16. Will these funds be distributed through E-Grants?

Yes, see all related answers above.